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Chair: Mr. Talbot ..... (Guyana)
Later: Mr. Mero (Vice-Chair) ..... (United Republic of Tanzania)

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The meeting was called to order at 10 a m.

Agenda item 22: Globalization and interdependence

(a) Globalization and interdependence (A/67/274)

(b) International migration and development (A/67/73 and A/67/254)

1. **Ms. Akhtar** (Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on international challenges for sustainable development: global policy coherence and the role of the United Nations (A/67/274), said that while some developing countries had benefited from gradual exposure to world markets, others were at a disadvantage because they had not had the opportunity to conduct industrial policies, which were critical to successful economic development. The report offered two recommendations: differentiated treatment of developing countries and support for their export industries; and, to address environmental challenges, alignment of multilateral trading rules with multilateral environmental agreements. Technology transfer should be facilitated, particularly to allow developing countries to incorporate green technology into their development strategies. Capital account regulation and macro-prudential risk management in developing countries required strengthening. Deeper international financial reform was also needed. The United Nations, and the Economic and Social Council in particular, should be given scope to coordinate global economic governance, which was in need of reform.

2. Introducing the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development (A/67/254), she said that migration had a huge impact on development. Out of 214 million international migrants, some 150 million originated in the South, and South to North migration had doubled in the last twenty years. Remittances had increased to $370 billion in 2011, but the costs of transferring them remained high because of a lack of competition and transparency. The recent adoption of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention concerning recent work for Domestic Workers provided hope that challenges affecting migrant workers could be addressed, but their protection was still a concern. Human trafficking and migrant smuggling remained a challenge, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was leading efforts to combat those crimes. Migration data and analysis must be improved for productive policymaking and public discourse. Various international and inter-agency partnerships were working to support Member States in addressing migration challenges and opportunities.

3. The Secretary-General's report proposed ideas on which countries could base their deliberations in preparation for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development to be held at the General Assembly's sixty-eighth session, in order to develop an action-oriented plan that benefited home and host countries and protected migrants and their families. The Dialogue should pave the way for mainstreaming migration into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda.

4. **Mr. Djacta** (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that globalization and interdependence, were of particular relevance to developing countries. Current global crises, particularly the economic crisis, threatened to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries. The Declaration and Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, adopted by the General Assembly in 1974, were more important than ever; States needed to continue working together towards an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, and solidarity.

5. While globalization could accelerate growth and development, it also presented challenges, especially to developing countries, which needed international cooperation to assist in responding to them.

6. The United Nations was well positioned to strengthen international cooperation for promoting development in the context of globalization — in particular, integrating developing countries into the globalizing economy; implementing internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and addressing global economic governance with a view to sustainable and socially balanced economic development.

7. The governance structure of the Bretton Woods institutions should be dramatically reformed to reflect their development mandate, and should involve all shareholders, in a transparent and inclusive process.

8. While international trade was an engine for development and sustained economic growth, only a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, alongside

meaningful trade liberalization would enable it to be achieved in a way that would benefit countries at all stages of development.

9. The international community must address the challenges caused by international migration in a spirit of partnership, so that migration would contribute to the development of origin, transit and destination countries, while respecting human rights.

10. Official development assistance (ODA) and other international resources were important in supporting poverty eradication in developing countries, as a key factor in migration flows was the search for better welfare and job opportunities. His delegation looked forward to the 2013 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development as a crucial step for the international community in guiding global migration policy.

11. **Ms. Rambally** (Saint Lucia), speaking on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), said that, owing to their small size, open economies, geographical location and climate, the CARICOM States felt the impact of the global food, energy, and financial and economic crises disproportionately, although their contribution to those crises had been negligible. The crises had made it clear that regulation and oversight were necessary, and the United Nations had a critical role to play in shaping a responsible twenty-first century globalization.

12. The United Nations must be a force for fairness in the context of the inequity of globalization. It had an obligation to lead the reform of the Bretton Woods institutions, limit the unregulated flow of small arms and light weapons, and craft a legally binding solution to climate change.

13. Financial instability in certain developed economies, and internationally, as well as the volatility of international prices of commodities, remittances, foreign direct investment and ODA, were all severely affecting CARICOM. Reform of multilateral institutions was too slow; urgent, meaningful reform of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank were necessary.

14. The report *Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy 2011-2012* noted that the international financial situation would negatively impact on trade in the region, with Caribbean countries to witness a fall of 0.7 per cent in exports and 2.1 per cent in imports. CARICOM was limited as an actor in the globalization process; it was a *de minimis* producer of agricultural products and financial services — and it was therefore inequitable to ask it to bear the brunt of ill-conceived policies, particularly in an atmosphere of crisis to which it had not contributed.

15. In that regard, CARICOM was concerned about the effects of trade-distorting subsidies, such as those provided to multinational rum companies. CARICOM States, for some of whom rum production was one of their last competitive industries, were blatantly disadvantaged by the subsidies. The relevant Governments should work with CARICOM to restore the competitive balance to the rum market.

16. Migration was part of the collective psyche of CARICOM States, and that CARICOM economies were greatly influenced by migrant flows. Many citizens relied on remittances from abroad, and the majority of college-educated CARICOM citizens lived and worked in developed countries, contributing to a regional "brain drain". In this period of economic crisis, CARICOM called on States not to unduly politicize or restrict migration.

17. In 1989 CARICOM had adopted the Grand Anse Declaration, committing itself to the free movement of its nationals within the region by eliminating the need for work permits. The free movement of people, as well as of capital, was key to globalization. The United Nations must play a central role in ensuring cooperation between States for the effective management of migration. Migrants must be protected and their rights safeguarded, and a rights-based approach should be taken to international migration.

18. **Mr. Khan** (Indonesia), speaking on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), said that the role of the United Nations in global governance had to be strengthened in the light of the changing context of sustainable development and fragmented national interests. The economic crisis and climate change greatly affected developing countries' capacity to achieve their development goals. While changing the existing international frameworks would be very challenging, coherent reforms in the areas of international trade, technology transfer and international finance were of crucial importance to developing and least developed countries.

19. The Doha Development Agenda should be redrawn to take account of different needs and

capacities. Unequal relationships, leading to unhealthy competition among developing countries, should be addressed through international and regional cooperation. The transfer of technology between developed and developing countries needed to be better integrated into the sustainable development agenda of the United Nations. International financial policies had led to macroeconomic instability in developing countries, and the recent crisis had illustrated the need for more public oversight of powerful private organizations.

20. Regional financial cooperation had been more effective than international cooperation. ASEAN had established the ASEAN Free Trade Area and the Roadmap for Monetary and Financial Integration of ASEAN (RIA-Fin), with the goal of economic integration through the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.

21. Human capital was key to economic and social progress, and the challenges caused by international migration should be addressed in a way that would contribute to the development of origin and destination countries. The ASEAN Labour Ministers' Work Programme provided a framework to prepare the region's 285 million workers for the challenges of globalization and liberalization. The ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, and the follow-up implementation Committee, were groundbreaking moves to address the issue of migrant workers.

22. The United Nations should continue to enhance coordination of international migration programmes. ASEAN supported the ongoing exchange of ideas through the Global Forum on Migration and Development, at the 2013 High-level Dialogue to be hosted by Mauritius in 2013. It also looked forward to the discussion of legal and orderly migration, leveraging diaspora contributions for development, and mainstreaming migration into the development agenda.

23. *M. Mero (United Republic of Tanzania), Vice-Chair, took the Chair.*

24. **Mr. Zampetti** (Observer for the European Union), speaking also on behalf of the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; the stabilization and association process countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; and, in addition, Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that the links between migration and development were clearly recognized both in the European Union's Global Approach to Migration and Mobility, which established the framework for its external migration policy, and the Agenda for Change, its new development policy framework. Since 2005, the European Union and its member States had established a comprehensive migration policy which took into account partner countries' concerns, respected the principle of policy coherence for development, and addressed relevant issues from a migrant's perspective. The European Union was ready to share its experience at the 2013 High-level Dialogue, which should target two general objectives. First, the current migration agenda should be broadened — notably by recognizing changing migration patterns and better addressing South-South migration and the role migration played in economic and social development. Secondly, migration should be better integrated with development strategies; for example, potential synergies between migration and areas such as employment policy and trade should be addressed. The post-2015 development framework should recognize the important links between migration and development.

25. In order to achieve the above objectives, the European Union had identified four priorities to be considered at the round tables proposed by the Secretary-General in his report. First, round table II should review progress made in fostering safe, orderly migration, as well as measures to combat irregular migration and human trafficking. To maximize the benefits of migration and development, the discussions could also reflect on migrants' rights and developed countries' migratory needs. Secondly, round-table topics III and IV could be combined in one session on integrating migration into development planning and promoting international cooperation in migration. Particular attention should be paid to policy coherence for development and the development-refugee nexus. Thirdly, a round table should assess the effects of migration, including forced migration, on the economic and social development of origin and destination countries, identify priorities for the post-2015 development framework, exploring to that end links between migration and the current MDGs. The issue of forced migrations due to political and armed conflicts or environmental risks would be tackled in that round table. Lastly, there should be a round table on promoting well-managed regional labour mobility.

Given that most international migration occurred between countries in the same region, stronger governance frameworks for regional mobility could improve migration conditions and promote migration-related development, including in South-South migration.

26. **Mr. Senchenko** (Russian Federation) said that in the current stage of globalization, international migration was having a direct impact on the socioeconomic development of countries, on their ability to attract foreign investment, and on their demographic profiles. In response, his Government had implemented substantive measures designed to improve its laws governing migration and to promote favourable conditions for various categories of migrant workers. More than 924,000 work permits had been issued by the Federal Migration Service in 2012, an 11 per cent increase over the previous year, while new migration policies now strove to integrate migrants, protect their socioeconomic well-being, raise their qualifications and familiarize them with their legal rights. To that end, consultative services had been organized in a number of local jurisdictions to address their concerns with respect to Russian migration legislation.

27. His country had historically been multinational and multi-confessional, and relied actively on the potential of national diasporas to facilitate the integration of new migrants into society. Its educational system had transformed it into an international contributor of highly qualified professionals in such fields as science, engineering and computer programming, and it was in turn making a concerted effort to attract foreign specialists, to ensure that employers enjoyed a favourable business climate and to promote investment and innovation.

28. In June 2012, the Government had approved a new conceptual framework to guide its migration policies, aimed at further legislative initiatives with respect to migration, regulating internal migration, increasing the transparency of the market for foreign labour, legalizing migration flows and toughening sanctions against unethical recruitment practices.

29. His Government attached great importance to intergovernmental cooperation with respect to migration issues, and was actively negotiating with other Governments to simplify visa regimes. A key priority was to liberalize migration procedures for citizens of Single Customs Union member countries and to harmonize migration laws within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Community. Lastly, his Government was continuing its close cooperation with its partners to systematize the accounting of migrants and in countering illegal migration.

30. **Mr. Diallo** (Senegal) said that international migration was currently an important issue for the international community, and that high rates of migration had caused most States concerned to review their relevant policies.

31. Migratory flows had substantial macroeconomic benefits for origin countries; remittances, sometimes equal to or greater than ODA, contributed to business start-ups, social infrastructure and productive investment. In Senegal, for example, remittances, estimated at 660 billion CFA francs in 2009, or 9 per cent of GDP, played a crucial role in development and contributed significantly to reducing poverty. Therefore, costs associated with transferring money should be reduced. His delegation welcomed the decision of the African Union, adopted at the nineteenth Assembly of Heads of State and Government, to establish an African Institute for Remittances.

32. Irregular migration remained a real challenge for African States. Real political will was necessary to improve the situation, by implementing measures focusing on the rights of migrants and their families, particularly women. Mechanisms needed to be established to eradicate smuggling of all kinds, notably of drugs and illegal migrants, and trafficking in persons. In addition to the 2005 Law to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Related Practices and to Protect Victims, and the action plan accompanying it, his Government had initiated projects with partners such as UNDP and Italy, allowing Senegalese expatriates to share their knowledge with the country and to invest in it with their definitive return in mind.

33. Such initiatives were supported by a concerted policy to manage migratory flows, reflected by the signing of bilateral and multilateral agreements and by the ratification of relevant conventions, notably the United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, to prevent illegal migration flows from Senegal. National measures had been supported by those taken at a subregional level

and those developed with the Rabat Process partners. The strategy adopted in Dakar in 2011 at the Third Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development was an indicator of the success achieved so far.

34. **Mr. Wennubst** (Switzerland) said that international migration presented opportunities as well as challenges. Efficient collaboration mechanisms and equal partnerships should be developed at a global level, to harness the potential of international migration for supporting social, cultural and economic development. Switzerland was committed to a comprehensive approach to migration which would accord equal consideration to the interests of countries of origin or transit and those of migrants themselves.

35. The round-table discussions at the 2013 High-level Dialogue should cover reinforcement of partnerships and cooperation in the field of international migration, as well as the integration of migration into discussions on the MDGs. Lessons learned since the 2006 High-level Dialogue should be taken into account, but should be accompanied by deliberations on the future, in particular on increasing global coherence and improving partnerships so that they benefited migrants as much as affected States.

36. Political commitment must be strengthened, and the issues of migration and development should be dealt with at regular intervals by the United Nations, in parallel with complementary processes such as the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which was an essential platform for dialogue between States. Switzerland was confident that the High-level Dialogue would strengthen international cooperation and open up new ways of leveraging the benefits of migration for development.

37. **Ms. Arias** (El Salvador) said that while globalization had generated development and technological progress, it had also brought about deep imbalances, environmental crises, and, in some countries, a lack of development. The new international balance of power, global demographic tendencies, migration, urbanization, and climate change all posed difficulties that required different solutions tailored to different countries. Developing countries had not been able to move beyond their dependence on commodity exports, or to diminish their vulnerability to the instability of world markets, and it was fundamental that they should achieve a shift to more diversified production. In that regard, progress needed to be made in the Doha Round negotiations, based on non-discrimination in the commercial system, the establishment of shared but differentiated standards, and the effective transfer of technology for the benefit of developing countries. To achieve stronger international economic governance, those developing countries needed to be better represented in world governing institutions. Those institutions also needed to prioritize reducing risks to developing countries' financial systems.

38. Approximately 3 million El Salvadorians lived abroad, mainly in the world's richest countries. Eighteen per cent of families had a member living abroad, and in 2011 the value of remittances was equivalent to 28.6 per cent of total VAT. International migration was thus an important issue for El Salvador, and her delegation hoped that at the 2013 High-level Dialogue concrete proposals would be made which would link migration and development, and that States would work actively to achieve the orderly, fluid and well-documented management of migration which would benefit the countries both of origin and of destination.

39. The issue of migration and development necessarily encompassed migrants' rights, and her delegation called for further ratifications of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and of the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

40. Public migration policies in El Salvador focused on discouraging irregular emigration by reducing incentives for young people to leave, promoting human development and strengthening attachment between communities of origin and a sense of dignity in the lives of their inhabitants. Efforts were also under way to promote the integration of migrants and their families, using a rights-based approach to the development of human potential.

41. **Mr. Momen** (Bangladesh) said that migration had not fulfilled its potential in terms of supporting development, and the countries suffering most from the problems caused by globalization — the financial and economic crisis, volatile energy prices, the food crisis and climate change — were those that had contributed least to creating those problems. New global governance was needed, based on equity, sovereign

equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States. Developing countries needed a greater voice in international economic decision-making.

42. While globalization could be a force for growth, it also caused marginalization and exogenous shocks to the economies of developing countries, particularly least developed countries (LDCs). The latter should benefit from predictable international help and a favourable global trade regime, as well as the right to development through strategies based on their particular social, political, economic and environmental needs. The United Nations should have a stronger role, and should lead the way in reforming international financial governance, which must be transparent and inclusive, and give developing countries a voice.

43. Migration was important to Bangladesh's development; remittances from citizens abroad currently exceeded 12 per cent of its GDP and amounted to nearly five times ODA and 10 times foreign direct investment. Bangladesh's labour market was disadvantaged by globalization, however. While liberalization had opened markets for goods and capital, foreign labour still faced discrimination. The international community should thus adopt measures to support the movement of service providers, as provided for in mode IV of the General Agreement on Trade in Services. In addition, many migrants were exploited abroad. Fair treatment and legal recognition were needed, and a minimum wage for migrant workers should be established. Host countries should also minimize the costs of sending remittances.

44. **Mr. Favero** (Brazil) said that International institutional frameworks were biased against developing countries; thus a new international economic order was called for, particularly given the current economic disarray. Increasing disquiet about the balance of costs and benefits of globalization did not mean countries should revert to protectionism and xenophobia, however — the shortcomings and excesses of globalization could be addressed while preserving its vitality. Globalization needed to be carefully managed, taking into particular account developing countries' needs.

45. The tremendous expansion of global trade in recent decades had been spurred by an across-the-board reduction of tariff barriers for industrial products. Developing countries could not resort to tools historically associated with industrialization; trade liberalization curbed or prohibited policies targeted at supporting local firms.

46. The World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) had raised the costs of acquisition of technology, negatively impacting developing economies. Intellectual property rights could not work as an incentive for technological innovation if countries did not have the requisite research and technological infrastructure already in place. The limited flexibilities available to developing countries under TRIPS had proven insufficient with respect to development and public health.

47. It was difficult to predict the full scope and duration of the current economic crisis, but it was certain that durable solutions could not be achieved without a greater voice for developing countries in the global financial bodies. His delegation supported a strengthened role for the United Nations in ensuring political cohesion in economic and financial matters, in coordination with IMF and the World Bank.

48. Brazil was a destination for immigrants, and there were also 3 million Brazilians living abroad. Historically, migration had played a key role in bringing energy and creativity to Brazil, supporting its dynamic economy. His delegation understood that overcoming the challenges of migration was crucial to promoting development, and looked forward to the 2013 High-level Dialogue.

49. **Ms. Nazaire** (Haiti) said that international migration and development was a vital issue for Haiti, particularly with regard to migrants' human rights, and the formulation of a national poverty-reduction and development strategy.

50. The degree of stigmatization associated with immigrants had been shown to correlate with economic conditions; the present financial crisis could therefore lead to a worsening of migrant workers' living conditions, or to their marginalization. Origin and destination countries should, therefore, be especially aware of the rules and conventions of international law regarding the free exchange of labour, and recognize that the overwhelming majority of migrants worked hard to improve the lives of their families and compatriots, as well as contributing to wealth creation in their new countries.

51. Two issues which negatively affected various developing countries deserved mention. The first was human trafficking, including child trafficking, a problem which the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was currently actively addressing. The second was forced repatriation of migrants who had violated host country laws; reinsertion systems were overwhelmed, and those people could cause social disruption and economic instability in their countries of origin. Multilateral and bilateral agreements were needed to resolve that issue.

52. Haiti was ambivalent about migration's socioeconomic impact: while remittances were equivalent to 25 per cent of the country's GDP, that money was largely used for basic needs, rather than invested, and the loss of human capital was felt considerably in the long term. Her Government had been investigating means of channelling contributions from the diaspora into community development and productive activities. It planned to institute a return policy, based on an improved business climate, stronger security, and equal rights for repatriated citizens, who had recently acquired the legal right to dual nationality.

53. The joint publication by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Migration Institute Policy on the potential role of migrants as agents of development in their countries of origin had proven a useful analytical tool for the formulation of effective policies. Likewise, the work of United Nations agencies to update regional and international statistics was extremely useful in promoting synergies between international migration and development.

54. **Mr. O'Brien** (India) said that, in an era of unprecedented mobility, international migration must be managed as a humane, orderly and mutually beneficial process. He hoped that the High-level Dialogue would result in a strong political commitment to international migration as a development paradigm. While the brain drain was a concern, remittances had helped to alleviate poverty in the developing world. Remittances could not, however, replace ODA or financing for development. The volume of South-South migration was now almost as significant as that of South-North migration, and the movement of persons would continue owing to such structural factors as demography and labour supply gaps.

55. Although migration was the oldest poverty alleviation tool, the developed world was reluctant to recognize that it had benefited from migration from the South. Migration benefited developing countries by improving their economic competitiveness, meeting gaps in the skilled and unskilled labour supply and building intellectual and institutional capacities. Granting migrants a secure status in their destination country would help them to realize their full potential. The international community should work collaboratively in order to make migration a win-win situation.

56. The economic implications of short-term migration required attention. For example, migrants' contributions to social security funds were often lost after they left the country. The international community must work to develop frameworks to ensure the transfer of pensions and cumulation of social security benefits, particularly through discussions on inclusive social protection policies under the auspices of ILO. Curbing irregular migration and the trafficking of persons, particularly women and children, was also a priority for developing countries.

57. India was one of the leading countries of origin, destination and transit; its composite civilization and free and tolerant society had benefited from centuries of migration. His Government was committed to cooperating with destination countries in order to protect unskilled workers. It had also established a Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and an Indian Council of Overseas Employment, which provided policy direction on recruitment procedures and employment contracts. Emigration regulations had been overhauled, and workers' resource centres had been established in Delhi and in several destination countries including the United Arab Emirates.

58. **Mr. Strohal** (Austria) said that, as Chair of the Council of IOM, he was pleased that IOM had been able to organize seminars at Headquarters in New York in order to highlight the importance of protecting migrants in crisis situations. In the deliberations of IOM, the view had been articulated that discussions at the various international and regional forums should be streamlined in order to prepare more effectively for the High-level Dialogue on International Migration. The preparatory process should be inclusive in order to integrate the expertise of different stakeholders. Early discussion of modalities and themes of the round-table

discussions, on the basis of a resolution to be adopted accordingly, would help to focus the preparations.

59. **Mr. Tan** (Singapore) said that, as a small island State with no natural resources, Singapore relied on one of the most open economies in the world. The country's total external trade and GDP had grown hugely over the previous decade. That very openness had, however, exposed Singapore to a sharp recession in 2008 and 2009. Its strategy was therefore to promote skills and strengthen the social safety net. Despite such negative events, global markets must remain open in order to lift people out of poverty.

60. International migration benefited both destination countries, which gained from the skills and labour of migrants, and countries of origin, which received remittances and valuable knowledge. Singapore, one of the most coveted destinations for migrants, welcomed the economic and cultural contributions of foreign workers. Before their arrival, migrants received letters containing information to help them protect their interests. In mid-2012, a settling-in programme had been introduced, including a safety awareness course and information regarding migrant workers' responsibilities and conditions of employment.

61. **Ms. Robl** (United States of America) said that international migration had been central to the very identity of her country. Her Government welcomed the progress made in ensuring respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants. The report of the Secretary-General called for additional efforts to help migrants caught in situations of natural disasters, civil conflict or war, a theme that was critical in view of the recent humanitarian crises in Haiti, Libya and Syria. The international community's response to those crises had been extremely generous. Her own country proudly assisted IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies assisting stranded migrants.

62. As the report rightly noted, the Libyan crisis had highlighted the need for the international community to address the situation of such migrants more systematically. The High-level Dialogue on International Migration would provide an excellent opportunity for serious reflection on the issue. Her Government recognized the important contributions of such agencies as ILO and the World Health Organization to the key substantive issues to be discussed at the Dialogue.

63. The United States strongly supported the Global Forum on Migration and Development as a means to discuss migration issues, share best practices, identify potential areas for cooperation and encourage collaboration among origin, transit and destination countries. The Forum should continue as an informal, non-binding, voluntary and government-led process outside the United Nations system. According to the recent government-led assessment of the Forum, the vast majority of States agreed that it had been a success. While aware of other assessments, such as those conducted by the Global Migration Group and the High-level Committee on Programmes, and while not opposed to further discussions on coherence, partnerships and coordination, her delegation believed that the Dialogue must focus on critical substantive issues rather than questions of institutional mandates. She hoped that Member States would recognize the need for IOM, as the only international organization with an exclusive mandate for global migration, to have a prominent place in those discussions.

64. **Ms. Al-Hadid** (Jordan) said that globalization should be made more inclusive through a careful mixture of market forces, policy intervention and international support tailored to local conditions. The world's growing complexity and interdependence called for greater national, regional and international policy coherence. Although migration did not feature prominently in the original framework of the MDGs, it had been addressed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro from 20 to 22 June 2012. In the light of shifting population dynamics, it was becoming increasingly important to integrate migration into development policy and reach a shared understanding of the linkage between the two areas. Her delegation looked forward to addressing that issue at the High-level Dialogue.

65. **Mr. Mologe** (Nigeria) said that the international community should renew its commitment to the Declaration on the Establishment of a New Economic Order contained in General Assembly resolution 3201 (S-VI), paying special attention to improved market access, stabilization of commodity prices and the international monetary system, and stronger representation of developing countries in global governance institutions. Technology transfer to developing countries was an important component of globalization, and should take place on favourable

terms in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

66. The United Nations was in a unique position to assist developing countries in achieving their potential for growth through globalization and should continue to promote coherence, coordination and implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs.

67. His delegation welcomed the increasing focus on South-South migration and hoped that the forthcoming Global Forum on Migration and Development would tackle some of the challenges regarding documentation of migrants from the South and strengthen and protect the rights of South-South migrants. Migration flows to Nigeria had increased owing to desertification, drought and land degradation in the Sahel region, with negative repercussions for the country's economic stability. In order to reverse that trend, the international community must commit to comprehensive implementation of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 66/288. Nigeria welcomed the convening of a high-level meeting on the situation in the Sahel on the margins of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly; the development of a United Nations regional integrated strategy for the Sahel; and the appointment of a Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel.

68. As a source, transit and destination country, Nigeria was faced with daunting security challenges. The Government had liberalized the banking industry in order to facilitate the receipt of remittances. A comprehensive national policy on migration was currently before Parliament. A document containing information for migrants was to be distributed in all Nigerian passport offices and in diplomatic and consular missions across the country. An agency to combat human trafficking had been established, and action was being taken to criminalize the smuggling of migrants by land, air and sea. Nigeria had concluded agreements with countries in the North with a view to ensuring that the fundamental rights of Nigerian migrants were respected; that irregular migration was not criminalized; and that property legally acquired by migrants was protected and returned.

69. **Mr. Alibabaee** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that although globalization could be a powerful force for development, the resulting growth had been slow and lopsided, and multiple interrelated crises caused by the policies of the industrialized world now threatened to widen the gap further. Globalization must be transformed into a positive force empowering the developing world. Greater efforts should be made to formulate a global strategy to mainstream the development dimension into global processes and multilateral institutions. International trading, monetary and financial systems had to be made consistently universal, open, equitable, non-coercive, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory. The United Nations should continue to be the main platform for the discussion of those challenges. Its role in international cooperation for development should be strengthened, along with its capacity to deliver social and economic programmes.

70. The international community should foster intercultural dialogue in order to resist cultural homogenization and the hegemony of a specific culture. The new international economic order should be based on equity, sovereignty, interdependence, the common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States.

71. **Mr. Dhanapala** (Sri Lanka) said that Sri Lanka was a country of origin and destination for migrants. Immigrant numbers were comparatively small, but were growing in view of the high quality of life and the introduction of resident visas for investors and people with special talents. Substantial numbers had left the country as refugees in the 1980s, particularly for Western countries; the war against terrorism, which had prompted those departures, had come to an end in 2009.

72. Economic migrants accounted for some 23 per cent of the total labour force and contributed significantly to the economy. The Sri Lankan Bureau of Foreign Employment registered all Sri Lankans leaving for employment abroad. Welfare officers had been assigned to missions in Middle Eastern countries in order to help migrant workers and liaise with national authorities.

73. To reduce the social impact on families of migrant workers, the Government had introduced a scholarship scheme in order to encourage children to continue their education, as well as self-employment programmes, counselling centres in schools, and day-care centres and hostels for children.

74. Sri Lanka was working closely with IOM, which had helped to establish a National Centre for Migration Statistics with additional funding from the European Union and the Government of Australia. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights had been active in Sri Lanka since the 1980s, and worked to protect and assist refugees from abroad and Sri Lankan returnees.

75. **Mr. de Alba** (Mexico) said that efforts should be made to strengthen the institutional framework addressing the link between migration and development while also protecting the human rights of migrants. It was therefore a matter of concern that the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families had been ratified by only 46 States, and that the United Nations did not yet have a forum in which to address the topic comprehensively. It was urgent for the Second and Third Committees to discuss the issue. The current session would be critical with a view to developing the migration agenda for the High-level Dialogue. In assessing the progress made, a comprehensive approach would require the participation of civil society, which had done much to help promote the rights of migrant workers.

76. **Ms. Silumbu** (Malawi) said that her country had enjoyed the benefits of globalization, but was now also suffering the knock-on effects of the recession in developed countries. Rising prices made it more difficult for the Government to provide fertilizer or import energy. Malawi's economic policies needed constant readjustment, and its ability to achieve the MDGs had been impaired.

77. The realization of development goals depended on a stable globalized world, which in turn would require the reform of crucial institutions. The United Nations must continue to promote institutional reform and cooperation and ensure the full inclusion of developing countries, particularly in the international trading system, so as to enable African countries to compete on an equal footing.

78. **Ms. Chen** Yingzhu (China) said that the High-level Dialogue should conduct an in-depth analysis of the nexus between migration and development, safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of migrants and enabling them to play a positive role in socioeconomic development.

79. First, the impact of migration on development needed to be evaluated objectively. South-North migration had recently overtaken South-South migration. The resulting growth in remittance flows had boosted household incomes for migrant families, and also increased the foreign exchange reserves and investment capabilities of countries of origin. China encouraged the Group of Eight to implement the commitment made at the L'Aquila summit held in July 2009 to reduce the global average cost of transferring remittances from 10 per cent to 5 per cent in five years. At the same time, however, remittances could not be a substitute for ODA.

80. Second, the rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants must be protected. Migrants had made up for the labour shortage in destination countries, contributing to their wealth and development. States should recognize that contribution by encouraging an open and inclusive environment, promoting a fair portrayal of migrants and facilitating their social integration. They should combat racial discrimination and protect the most vulnerable groups, particularly women. Third, international cooperation should be strengthened. States had a common responsibility to promote safe and legal migration while addressing such causes as poverty, unemployment, armed conflict and environmental degradation. Developed countries should continue to provide funds and technology to assist developing countries in capacity-building. China supported such mechanisms as the Global Migration Group and the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which encouraged enhancing pragmatic policy coordination.

81. **Archbishop Chullikatt** (Observer for the Holy See) said that the global economic crisis had affected the poorest people in developed countries, as well as exposing systemic fragilities in the developing world. The international community had failed to monitor and regulate cross-border transactions, and it lacked a forum in which the voices of those most affected could be heard. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development had called for a broad alliance of people, Governments, civil society and the private sector. That would require a recognition of fundamental values and principles so as to ensure that the pursuit of development and interdependence was guided by respect for the fundamental priority and dignity of the human person.

82. Investment always had a moral as well as economic significance. The market governed commercial transactions, but could not function solely according to the principle of equivalence in value. A model market economy should be created in which all could participate and benefit without doing so at others' expense. That vision was endangered by the increasing inequality between and within States. Businesses were increasingly spread across several territories, with a more rapid staff turnover and a greater focus on short-term investments. Those developments had weakened companies' sense of responsibility towards their traditional stakeholders, including workers, suppliers of inputs, consumers and the natural environment. The laudable goal of establishing a new international economic order could be achieved only if every individual recognized their own responsibility to promote the common good.

83. **Mr. Baka Zolay** (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that the international community had made a sustained effort over the previous two decades to address the growing extent, complexity and impact of international migration. Most recently, the informal thematic debate on international migration and development convened by the President of the General Assembly on 19 May 2011 had highlighted the fact that international migration could contribute to poverty reduction only if development partnerships were strengthened in order to protect migrants' rights.

84. His Government had established an agency for emigrants under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with a view to helping with the modernization and reconstruction of the country. Emigrants from the Democratic Republic of the Congo could contribute to progress in a number of areas, including good governance and democracy; the transfer of funds to develop local businesses; cultural and personal exchange; the acquisition and transfer of new technologies; the improvement of conditions in towns, villages and schools; and success in competitive sports. However, his country condemned irregular migrants, who were particularly vulnerable to discrimination and abuse.

85. His delegation looked forward to the High-level Dialogue and urged the participants to take into account the contents of the report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/67/170).

86. **Ms. Klein Solomon** (International Organization for Migration) said that most Governments had come to realize that safe, legal, voluntary and humanely managed migration contributed positively to development, including the realization of the MDGs. However, most strategic development frameworks still had not systematically integrated the issue. It was therefore important to help Governments in developing comprehensive and coherent policies, fair and functioning legal and administrative structures and well-trained personnel.

87. As the leading intergovernmental organization dedicated solely to migration, IOM supported Member States and the international community in promoting humane and orderly migration. In 2011, it had devoted over $1.3 billion to initiatives aimed at strengthening capacities of migrants, Governments and the international community to respond to challenges and opportunities, particularly by facilitating international cooperation, dialogue and partnership. With over 450 field offices and 8,300 staff members worldwide, IOM delivered policy guidance, technical and operational support in an increasingly varied range of areas. In 2011, IOM had assisted over 12,000 labour migrants, 5,000 victims of human trafficking and 55,000 voluntary returnees. Responding to the crisis in the Middle East and North Africa region, it had brought hundreds of thousands of stranded migrants to safety.

88. On the basis of its experience, IOM believed that there was a need to improve awareness, understanding, ratification and implementation of relevant legal instruments; promote the mainstreaming of migration into the development framework; foster more effective labour migration and safer recruitment of foreign workers; and adopt a holistic approach to health outcomes for migrants and host communities. IOM looked forward to the High-level Dialogue as an opportunity to integrate migration into the post-2015 development agenda.

89. **Ms. Viale** (International Labour Organization) said that ILO promoted a rights-based approach to migration in accordance with its constitutional mandate. Migration policies were all too often dominated by interior or security policy concerns. ILO worked to enhance the capacity of labour ministries and employers' and workers' organizations to better address the linkages between migration, employment and labour markets, and to formulate appropriate policies.

90. The High-level Dialogue would provide an opportunity to stress the linkages between employment, labour protection and development policies, and to recognize the pivotal role of ILO in the governance of international labour migration. ILO had substantive contributions to make to the four themes proposed in the Secretary-General's report. In particular, Convention No. 189 of ILO on decent work for domestic workers, as well as its supplementing recommendation, should provide focus with a view to leveraging diaspora contributions for development. Other ILO conventions and tools, including the *ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration*, could prove instrumental in the debate on promoting legal and orderly migration.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.